

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 10, 2004

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on May 10, 2004 in Room 830, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Jernigan called a meeting of a Committee of the Whole to order at 10:07 a.m., followed by introductions. The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Jernigan
Treasurer Lesser
Commissioner Cooperman
Commissioner Creary
Commissioner Davalos
Commissioner Morgan
Commissioner Rodriguez

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Commissioners Perkins joined the meeting during the President's Report, constituting a quorum.)

President Jernigan's report is summarized as follows:

- She wished everyone a belated Happy Mother's Day.
- On April 30, 2004 she attended the 23rd Annual Pat Brown Institute Awards Dinner honoring Senator Dianne Feinstein, Congresswoman Hilda Solis and community activist Henry L. Lacayo.
- She attended the ACCW Quarterly meeting on May 7-9, 2004, and reported that they discussed the fate of California women's commissions in light of budgetary constraints, proposed changes in the ACCW bylaws, established a budget spending criteria, and put in place a transition team for election of a new president at the ACCW Convention in July.
- She shared photos of the 2003 Scholarship recipients.
- She asked Commissioners to say a special prayer for Commissioner Yolanda Becerra-Jones for the passing of her mother.
- President Jernigan also lost her niece, who passed away recently.
- She read a letter of thanks from former Commissioner Susan Carpenter McMillan for the tribute to her at the Awards Luncheon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Creary, seconded by Commissioner Lesser, and unanimously carried, the minutes of April 26, 2004 were approved with the following corrections indicated in bold italics:

Page 5
Community Outreach

Commissioner Creary announced the NAACP **Western Region** Legal Defense Fund's Annual Luncheon today at 12:30 p.m. at the Omni Hotel in Los Angeles.

Commissioner Perkins reported on the African American Women's **Political Action Committee** Council's Annual Awards honoring Captain **Veronie** Veronica **Steele**-Small, **one of many honorees**, and on a Women's Town Hall meeting.

Matters Not on the Posted Agenda

Commissioner Rodriguez requested that the Commission agendaize **for consideration to pay for the Domestic** reimbursement for payment of the Violence Intervention Program's screening cards.

Page 1
President's Report

She attended an April 13, 2004 **Business** Women's Advisory Board (WAB) meeting event featuring. **WAB is part of the USC sport athletics department, its program is called Game Face: What Does a Female Athlete Look Like, and they partner with Girl Scouts of America. The Commission's 2004 honoree Lisa Love Women of the Year Awardee heads up that department and is one of the board members.**

On April 20th she **along with** and Commissioner Lewis attended the 1736 Crisis Center's 30th Anniversary honoring Julie Knabe and **featuring presenters Rob Reiner, featuring State Attorney General Bill Lockyer and others.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Lesser reported on the expenditures for the month of April 2004. The beginning balance for April was \$29,264.42; the expenditures were \$1,711.64; the income was \$132.72; and the ending balance was \$27,685.50. The May 2004 budget is \$13,842.75.

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported the following:

- Commissioners Becerra-Jones and Cooperman are scheduled to attend the Mary Magdalene Project's Jungle Fever event on Saturday, May 15, 2004 at the Los Angeles Zoo.
- On April 6, 2004 the Board of Supervisors proclaimed the week of May 3-9, 2004 as "Public Service Recognition Week." In support of our troops, the Board has encouraged County employees to participate in a

care package campaign for County Employees serving in the Armed Forces.

- Staff has spoken with Nadine Washington of the Pasadena Commission on the Status of Women on the progress of the upcoming NACW 35th Annual Convention on July 14 – 18, 2004 in Pasadena.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2004-05 SLATE OF OFFICERS

Nominating Committee Chair Davalos reported the following 2004-05 slate of Commission officers:

Ruth V. Creary, Ph.D. – President
Charlotte Lesser – Vice President
Barbara Perkins – Treasurer

President Jernigan thanked the Committee for their work and declared the committee dissolved.

UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES OF THE WOMEN'S HEALTH OFFICE

Ellen Eidem, Acting Director, Los Angeles County Office of Women's Health, provided an overview of the Cervical Cancer Prevention and Education Initiative. She noted the following:

- In January 2002 the Cervical Cancer Prevention campaign was launched with goals of increasing awareness, access, and number of screenings and earlier diagnosis for Los Angeles County women.
- A telephone hotline was established to provide information and make appointments in several languages.
- Media campaigns were conducted to outreach to low income women at high risk for cervical cancer in various ethnic communities.
- Latinas, the largest single ethnic population in Los Angeles, are likely the highest risk group. Their incidence of cervical cancer from 1996-2000 was more than 1.5 times that of non-Latina, Black, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and more than twice that of white women in the county. Korean women show nearly as great a risk as Latinas.
- Evaluation of the first 18 months of the campaign indicated it was very successful. The hotline received over 25,000 phone calls and made 14,000 appointments. Of these callers 98% were women below 200% of the poverty level and 96% were women of color,
- A key part of the campaign is to reach women who had not had a pap exam in 3 to 4 years and are the most at risk.
- Early screening and treatment for cervical cancer could save the County an estimated \$1.6 million dollars.

- The Health Mobile Van Outreach Program has screened 1,710 women since its inception in May 2002 for diabetes, hypertension and other health conditions.
- One goal of the program is to follow up with women who had abnormal exams to ensure they receive proper treatment and care.

Treasurer Lesser suggested Ms. Eidem partner with the American Heart Association on issues related to heart disease among women of color. Ms. Eidem indicated she is meeting with the organization regarding outreach efforts to this population.

President Jernigan noted she has suggested to women in women's shelters that they contact the Women's Health Office regarding health screenings. She also invited the Women's Health Office to participate in this year's 5k Run/Walk. Ms. Eidem and President Jernigan also agreed to meet again to further discuss community outreach.

In response to Commissioner Davalos' inquiry, Ms. Eidem explained factors contributing to the high incidence rate of cervical cancer among Latinas and Korean women.

Commissioner Creary suggested the Women's Health Office include information on women's one-stop clinics and heart disease in their media materials. Ms. Eidem then spoke on plans to work with the women's one-stop clinics, including the Hubert Humphrey Comprehensive Health Center. Commissioner Creary also requested Commission staff to notify the Women's Health Office of when the Health Committee would participate in the Board Health Deputy meetings.

Commissioner Rodriguez requested the Women's Health Office to fax information to Commission staff on their June 23, 2004 outreach.

Commissioner Morgan offered to provide the Women's Health Office with press contacts for their press releases.

Following discussion, President Jernigan thanked Ms. Eidem for her informative presentation.

(Treasurer Lesser was excused from the meeting).

DISCUSSION ON COMMISSION'S SPONSORSHIP AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NACW 35TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION ON JULY 14-18, 2004 IN PASADENA

The Commission discussed its participation and sponsorship options for the NACW Convention this year. Commissioner Rodriguez suggested providing a donation of \$1000, approving registrations for five Commissioners, and distributing convention flyers. Commissioner Perkins asked the President to send a letter inviting the Women's Appointment Collaboration to participate in the convention. Staff offered to assist with registration.

**DESIGNATE TREASURE LESSER TO REPRESENT THE COMMISSION ON THE
WESTERN STATES AFFILIATE, LOS ANGELES COUNTY DIVISION OF THE
AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Commission continued this matter until the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health Committee

Commissioner Creary reported that this morning the Committee discussed the nursing shortage and the status of the King/Drew Medical Center.

Commissioner Creary asked staff to research the status of ACR-139, which urges the development of recommendations for training programs for residents of the King/Drew Medical Center for accreditation purposes. She also requested that staff contact Health Deputy Chair Richard Espinosa to schedule the committee to attend one of the upcoming meetings of the Board Health Deputies.

Domestic Violence Subcommittee: The Committee will meet on Monday, May 24, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 830.

Legislative Committee: There was no report.

Media/Public Relations Committee: Commissioner Morgan will be working on the media campaign for the upcoming 5k Run/Walk event.

Older Women's Issues Committee: There was no report.

5K Run/Walk Subcommittee: The Committee will meet Monday, May 26, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 374-L.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rose Borja announced that City of Carson Mayor James L. Dear recently appointed her to the City of Carson Women's Issues Commission. She also recommended visiting the Women's Health Exhibit at the California Science Center at Exposition Park.

Genevieve Clavreul reported that she received contract information on the management of the King/Drew Medical Center.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Cooperman reported that she attended the Los Angeles City Council meetings on April 20 and 27, 2004 and spoke in support of the L.A. City Commission on the Status of Women. She also reported that the consolidation of the City Commission is off Mayor Hahn's proposed 2004-05 budget.

President Jernigan's report is summarized as follows:

- She read an email from the Friends of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women stating that the consolidation of the City Commission was not included in the Mayor's 2004-05 budget, but that they are concerned that the Commission's budget is being cut over 38%.
- She also announced that she has two tickets for the Goodwill Industries *Evening Among the Stars* event on May 19th at the Universal Sheraton Hotel. Commissioners Davalos and Morgan expressed interest in attending.

Commissioner Rodriguez attended the services for Commissioner Becerra-Jones' mother. Commissioner Becerra-Jones had expressed thanks for the flowers sent by staff on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Creary reported that she attended the Prototypes Seminar at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel and also announced that her son was honored as Entrepreneur of the Year at the Links Affair of Honor "Achievers 2004."

Commissioner Perkins announced that Ida B. Kinney, educator, advocate and member of the Commission on Aging, would turn 100 years of age on May 25, 2004, and suggested that the Commission send her a bouquet of roses.

Commissioner Creary requested Commissioner Perkins to provide information on any celebrations for Ms. Kinney.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA

Commissioner Rodriguez requested that discussion of her request be placed on the next agenda. Following discussion, she indicated she would provide additional information and support documents for her request.

Commissioner Creary suggested placing agenda items requiring Commission action earlier on the agenda, and perhaps prior to set items to ensure a quorum vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Ruth Jernigan, President
Charlotte Lesser, Treasurer
Roslyn Cooperman
Ruth Creary, Ph.D
Karin Davalos
Lila Morgan
Barbara Perkins
Olivia Rodriguez

EXCUSED

Yvonne Mariajimenez, Esq., Vice President
Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Reiko Duba
Wadie Gravely
Janet E. Mummey, Esq.

UNEXCUSED

Sophia Esparza
Bonnie J. Lewis

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Khanh Nguyen, Executive Office
B. Eugene Romig, Executive Office
Twila P. Kerr, Executive Office
Ellen Eidem, Women's Health Office

GUESTS

Rose Borja
Genevieve Clavreul